

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph 45 starting on page 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0045] In failover mode, the primary data path to target1 760 flows over HBA1 750, while HBA2 752 is designated as the secondary failover data path. An initiator in a portal group logs into the target1 760 by using a pre-assigned Inter-Session IDentifier (ISID) defining the session and receives a Target Session IDentifier (TSID). One or more connections are established for the session for the secondary data path. Thus, both HBAs are logged into target1 760 with HBA1 750 configured as primary and actively accessing target1 760. HBA2 752, marked as secondary, remains quiescent with respect to target1 760. However, some activity occurs on the quiescent HBA2 752, such as TCP or iSCSI traffic that keeps the connection alive. If the data flow to the target1 760 port attached through the primary HBA1 750 fails, the failover component 124 instantly redirects data flow through the secondary HBA2 752. Thus, as long as any data path exists that maintains connectivity between an iSCSI HBA and a remote target, the data flow to the remote target continues in an uninterrupted fashion.